

ADULT PROBATION DEPARTMENT

A Force for Positive

CHANGE.

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Managing For Results - GOAL A - Crime Reduction

Adult Probation's performance results for FY 2010 demonstrate that we have made tremendous progress on our Crime Reduction goal. Revocations to prison and new felony convictions have dropped significantly, while successful completions of probation have increased.

Let's step away from the business management perspective and reflect on the human impact of our Department's progress. Typically, our performance results are reported as percentages. Intuitively, we know that the percentages come from numbers and the numbers represent people, but when you look at the actual numbers and reflect on the individual lives that are impacted, the results are *extraordinary*.

MCAPD Crime Reduction Performance Results FY 2008 to FY 2010			
Performance Measures	FY 2008 Results	FY 2010 Results	Difference in Number of People
Successful Completion of Probation	66%	77%	+3,005
Revoked to Department of Corrections	28%	19%	-1,142
New Felony Sentencing	8.0%	4.7%	-741

Over **3,000 more people** successfully completed probation last fiscal year than in FY 2008. This is a positive achievement for each individual. Prosocial attitudes and behaviors increased and better choices were made. Restitution was paid and obligations were fulfilled. Typically, lives stabilized – relationships improved, employment /financial status improved, and often, emotional and physical health improved, too.

When compared to FY 2008, more than **1,100 fewer people** were revoked to prison last fiscal year. These are individuals who made positive choices for themselves, their families, and the community. As a result, they were able to avoid all the negative ramifications of serving time in prison. When people go to prison, it impacts how they see themselves and how others regard them. Reintegration in the community is difficult. Incarceration has a negative impact on employability and earnings, and often diminishes the financial progress of the formerly incarcerated individual and his/her children for decades. Family relationships are significantly disrupted by incarceration. Approximately **1,380 fewer children** had a parent revoked to prison last fiscal year (based on our estimates of the number of probationers who have minor children and the average number of children per

probationer). Parental incarceration is a significant risk factor for abuse, neglect, behavioral health problems, substance abuse, delinquency, youth criminal justice involvement, and incarceration as an adult.

Over **740 fewer probationers** had a new felony sentencing in FY 2010 compared to the number with a new felony sentencing in FY 2008. These are individuals who rejected continued criminal behavior and adopted positive behavior changes. Their actions were more in line with community standards and they did not create victims and cause harm to the community.

In just one year, thousands of additional lives have been positively impacted. That's **extraordinary!**

Managing For Results - GOAL D - Customer Satisfaction Law Enforcement/Criminal Partner Survey

A survey conducted in FY10 showed a 94% satisfaction rating of respondents who were satisfied with their organizations' interaction with the Adult Probation Department. In addition, a 94% satisfaction rating was reported for those that felt APD responded to their organization's needs in a timely manner, 100% felt that MCAPD treated their staff with dignity and respect, and 95% indicated that they felt MCAPD was providing a valuable service to the community.

Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant - A Prison Reentry Success Story

Background and Issues

A trend developed in Arizona in which increasing numbers of offenders were sentenced to prison with a consecutive probation sentence. In 2009, the Arizona Department of Corrections held 8,000 offenders with consecutive probation to be served in Maricopa County and these offenders were being released at a rate of 150 per month. Issues included inaccurate release dates and the absence of reentry planning and services. Twenty-three percent (23%) of the offenders absconded prior to contact with probation.

Funding

A \$2 million Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice enabled the Maricopa County Adult Probation Department (MCAPD) to retain 7 jobs and create 8 new jobs. The positions were used to establish a reentry unit.

Goal

Reduce recidivism of individuals released from prison to probation, thereby increasing neighborhood safety and the efficiency of the criminal justice system.

Program Design

- Pre-release officers (4) establish pre-release contact with the offender, identify critical needs, and establish release goals. They contact family members, verify intended housing, and coordinate with other agencies. Triage identifies cases with acute psychiatric needs or other issues that require urgent attention upon release.

By decreasing the rate of probation absconders upon release from the Department of Corrections, the annual cost savings incurred by providing re-entry services include:

\$ 135,515 annual County Savings

\$ 965,420 annual State Savings

- Reentry officers (7) provide early intervention and evidence-based probation supervision. Located in high density/high crime areas with the largest concentration of ADC releases, reentry officers see offenders within 72 hours of release. Small caseloads enable the officers to address critical needs, such as housing, identification, transportation, employment, and treatment referrals. Their strategy is to engage the offender and quickly establish stability in the community. Officers conduct a risk assessment, develop a case plan, and utilize a network of agencies, treatment providers, emergency and transitional housing programs, and other resources. Most offenders are stable in 30 to 90 days and are then transitioned to a standard field caseload for supervision.
- Re-engagement officers (3) locate missing offenders and encourage them to check in and cooperate with probation supervision. The officers are specially trained for fugitive apprehension and will arrest offenders, when an arrest is warranted.
- Collaboration is used to improve cross-agency coordination and remove barriers to successful reentry. A probation supervisor oversees the program and participates in higher level collaboration with other agencies and community-based organizations.

Results

- The program was implemented in January 2010 and 1,249 offenders received reentry services in the first year of the program.
- The absconder rate dropped from 23% to 2.3%.
- The average rate of petitions to revoke filed dropped from 10.1% to 4.9%.
- The rate for new felony arrests dropped from 13.8% to 10.8%.

Recidivism Results			
	% Absconded Prior to Probation	Average Petition to Revoke Rate	% with a New Felony Arrest while on Probation
2008 Prison Releases to Probation (pre-grant)	23%	10.1%	13.8%
2010 Prison Releases to Probation (Re-entry grant)	2.3%	4.9%	10.8%
% Change	-90%	-51%	-22%

Achievements

- Reduced recidivism
- More effective coordination between correctional agencies
- An expanded network of services to assist and support reentering offenders
- An improved reentry process for offenders

Southwest Border Grant

Combating Criminal Narcotics Activity Stemming from the Southern Border of the U.S.: This two year stimulus grant from the U.S. Department of Justice provides for five surveillance officers in the Fugitive Apprehension Unit. The officers are dedicated to working warrants on probation violators with drug-related charges.

Five surveillance officers were added to the Fugitive Apprehension Unit to locate and arrest individuals with a probation violation warrant for a drug or drug-related offense. Previously, many of the probation violation warrants for drug offenses were not being served because of an emphasis on apprehending probation violators with person or property offenses.

Since October 2009, the five grant-funded surveillance officers have arrested 559 probationers with a probation violation warrant for a drug or drug-related offense and brought them back into the justice system. In addition, the officers assisted in clearing another 279 probation violation warrants on individuals with drug or drug-related offenses by providing information to local law enforcement agencies. In the course of their apprehension work, the officers conducted 54 probation searches that took illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, and weapons off the streets, including 28 firearms. The officers have formed working relationships with numerous local law enforcement agencies.

MCAPD Achievements and Awards FY 2010

- ***NACo Achievement Award*** - The Evidence Based Practices (EBP) Quality Assurance Project. To advance its primary goal of crime reduction, the Maricopa County Adult Probation Department committed to an Evidence Based Practice (EBP) Initiative. Recognizing the overarching principle of quality assurance, along with the ongoing need to promote a positive learning environment, three Quality Assistance (QA) supervisor positions were created in August 2007. The QA supervisors have played a significant role in the training and coaching of staff, as well as the dissemination of information geared to improve staff's understanding and use of the techniques that work to reduce crime. Evaluation has demonstrated advances in staff's EBP skill level.
- ***MCAPD Education Program Certificate of Achievement:*** Recognized by the Arizona Department of Education with a Certificate of Achievement for exceeding the Arizona state performance goals for student educational gains.
- ***Mountain Plains Adult Education Association (MPAEA) Awards MCAPD Education Program:*** The organization promotes and provides professional development opportunities for adult educators and is on the cutting edge of research-based successful adult education tactics. At the Conference, MCAPD's Education Program and three of its staff won awards. Bill Pebler, Dan Sitzler and Kristi Wimmer were recognized for their participation in the 2009 Teachers Investigating Adult Numeracy (TIAN) project. TIAN is a professional development initiative that teaches research-based mathematics principals to instructors of adults. Research-based TIAN is a way for our teachers to effectively show the probationers how to solve math problems in the classroom, at home and on the job. In addition APD's Education Program was also recognized for exceeding all the Arizona State Performance goals